



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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29 APRIL 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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LATE ITEM
(Information as of 1700 EDT)

Dominican Republic

Neither side seems to have been able to get the upper hand in the fighting this afternoon, and the issue is still very much in doubt.

The rebels, well entrenched downtown, have maintained the initiative and have overrun a number of loyalist police posts. Wessin's forces are trying to mount an offensive against rebel strongpoints but are hampered by communications troubles and a lack of fresh forces. Food and medicine are also in short supply.

Reports indicate that the rebel force is being directed by a high-ranking member of the Dominican Communist Party. The party has apparently switched its operational headquarters in Santo Domingo for as yet unknown reasons.

Cuban-trained Dominican extremists are taking an active part, and Havana radio has been egging the rebels on.

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1. Vietnam

The Chinese Communists continue their stiff opposition to negotiations on Vietnam.

Chou En-lai today declared that any conference on Cambodia must be confined strictly to Cambodia. He added that "only" the Liberation Front was qualified to represent South Vietnam.

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2. Ethiopia

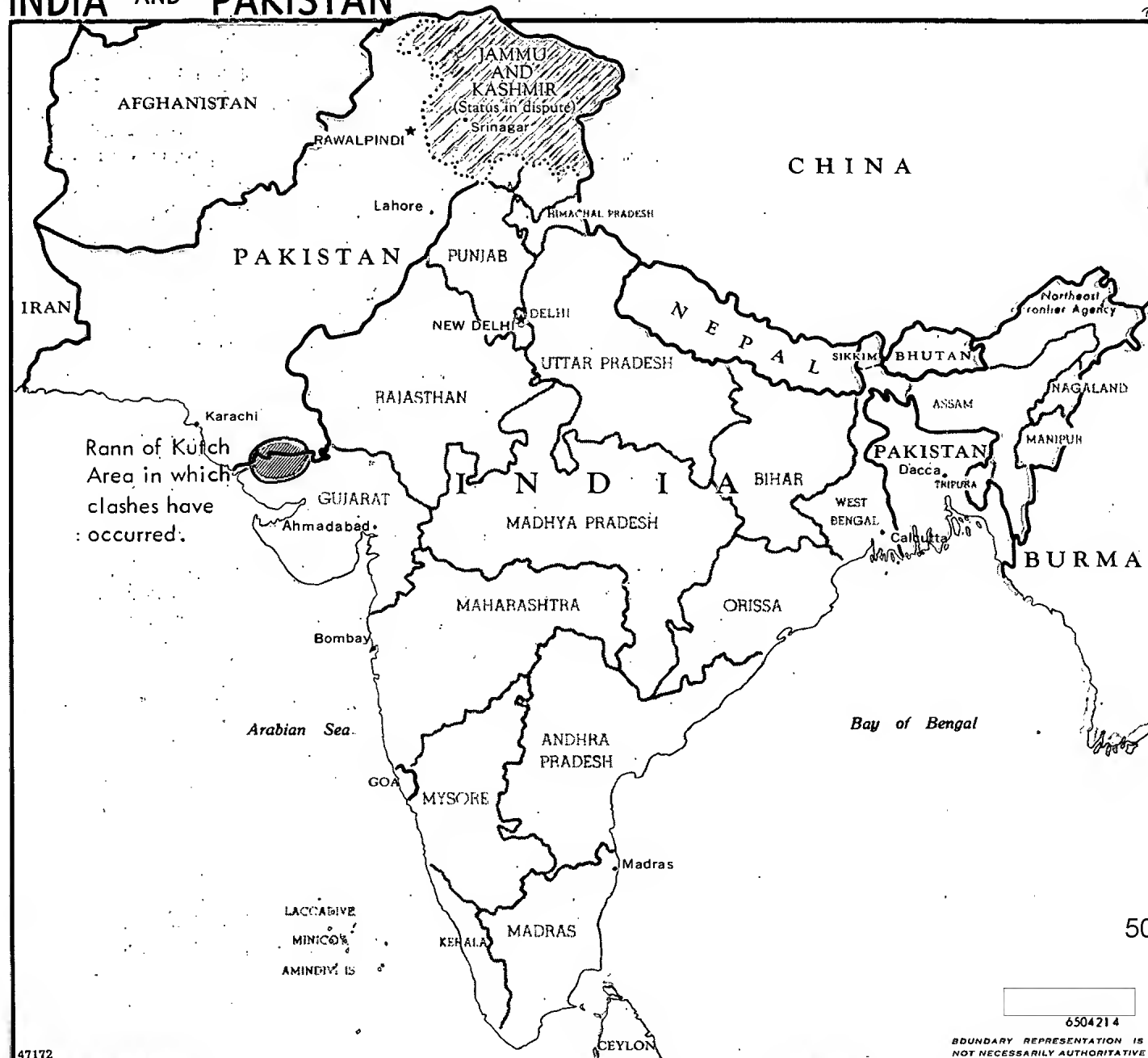
Haile Selassie's government has decided to proceed with the recognition of Communist China in the near future. The Ethiopians, who are the only East Africans not recognizing Peiping, have been threatening to do this for some time now. They have apparently concluded the issue has outlived its usefulness as a lever for extracting added US military aid.

3. Latin America

Communist leaders in a number of Latin American countries are trying to whip up big May Day demonstrations and reportedly hope to use the Vietnam and Dominican issues to give these a decidedly anti-American turn.

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INDIA AND PAKISTAN



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4. India

Pakistan has rejected Prime Minister Wilson's plea for an immediate ceasefire and standstill agreement in the Rann of Kutch. (See Map) It has countered by renewing an offer of mutual withdrawal already rejected several times by the Indians.

New Delhi says that Pakistani troops were on the move in the Rann again yesterday. Both sides have put their armed forces on the alert and despatched further troops to the area. Both are also reinforcing border contingents in the Punjab area.

Indian setbacks on the frontier have put Shastri in a very tight box. He may yet decide that retaliation along the border of East Pakistan, where the advantage lies with Indian forces, is the only way to prevent the fall of his government.

5. Kenya

The Kenyatta government has apparently rejected a shipment of Soviet arms as "secondhand and out-of-date."

A Soviet arms carrier, the Fizik Lebedev, has been anchored at the Kenyan port of Mombasa waiting to unload since Saturday. Kenyatta is reported to have been angered by Soviet insistence that Russian technicians stay with the materiel for an extended period to train the Kenyans. Besides, he appears to have gotten sufficient arms from the UK since the Soviet offer was made last summer.

6. Cyprus

The Turkish Cypriots are raising difficulties for the UN peacekeeping force in the northern part of the island.

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